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Value Winner 2018

Little Daydreams Nursery

The Judges say...

This is a fantastic example where long-term social value has been created within and beyond a community – starting with virtually nothing but a vision, an old building, determination and perseverance.

Mitie and Orbit worked together to refurbish the unused, dilapidated building into a fit-for-purpose, state-of-the-art, nursery. The building sits beneath the Orchard House tower block and local estate, where there is a direct need for childcare. The nursery is positioned right at the heart of the local community providing a central hub for children to grow and learn. With a budget of £20,000 and a six week timeline, collaboration in the delivery of this community investment project was key. From site surveys to completion, Mitie turned around Orchard House in three weeks leaving behind a brand new day centre including sensory room, management office and a new kitchen.



Contract value: £20,000 Approx 900m²

The dream began with an Orbit Housing self-employment course when a customer with a vision to provide a day care centre for children with special needs sought help to revive Orchard House. A lot of hard work was required to bring it up to standard.

Actions

- Key catalysts: Investment by Orbit Housing of £20,000 for renovations; vision and determination of the Day Nursery Manager.
- Clear communication between teams and meaningful collaboration.
- Detailed understanding of the needs of the client, parents and children.
- Team dedicated to the success of the project.
- Locally sourced materials from suppliers who were committed and engaged with the community benefits.

Impacts

- Optimism and hope for 42 different families and children.
- Increasing sense of community.
- One start-up business, 5 employees, 2 apprenticeships.
- £12,000 revenue generation for reinvestment in Orbit Community Projects.
- Social impact: £20,000 = HACT £251,626.

Lessons learned

Plan, persevere and take the pain! Creating a hub that is so fundamental to a community will add value now and for generations to come. The project has empowered the community to take further steps towards self-employment, improved health and wellbeing and importantly towards a sustainable future.

LITTLE
DAYDREAMS

